

# The Christian Chronicle

Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Minister  
Lisa Lombardo, Music Director

## Pastor's Corner

According to the news, things are bad and may get worse. Lehman Brothers, Fannie and Freddie, AIG, \$4+ gasoline, etc, etc. But how are we to measure what is of value? Listen to the Fed and Wall Street? Listen to the talking heads on television and radio? Or listen to the words that have been passed down from other bad times.

Paul talks about perseverance, the Gospels tell us not to be concerned about what to wear and what to eat. Paul dares us to rejoice even in times of trouble and persecution.

Look at the people around you. Look at the friends and family who love and support you. Look at all the blessings God provides. While they may not erase every trouble and challenge, they will not be taken from you. Even the loved ones who have died are no farther away than the nearest prayer.

Instead of looking at the crises and wringing our hands, let us look for ways to help others through this time with our God given blessings. We don't have to have an answer for every problem. We don't have to save the world. We are only responsible for the opportunities God puts in front of us.

Count your blessings is an old, old saying. It may sound trite and outdated, but in reality, if you sit down, calm your mind and center yourself on Gods presence with you, you may find more for which to give thanks, than things about which to worry.

Faith, hope and love and the greatest of these is love. These three cannot be found for sale anywhere. They can only come through you from God.

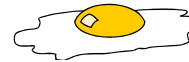
Shalom, *Darrell*

## OCTOBER ELDERS & DEACONS

The Elders and Deacons scheduled to serve in the month of October are: Elders – Lois Crawford & Randy Bickley and Deacons – Beth Bickley, Wayne Scaggs, Gidget Hurlbert and Nicole Crofutt.



### CMF BREAKFAST



The CMF monthly breakfast was held on Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>. Eight people attended. They will meet again on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00. All men are invited to attend each month.

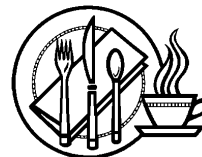
## OCT. NURSERY WORKERS

- Oct. 5 Juliet Nolde
- Oct. 12 Ruth Griffith
- Oct. 19 Margaret Hicks
- Oct. 28 Mike Hurlbert



### Feed My Sheep

Our church helps support the local food pantry with non-perishable food items each month. The food pantry helps about 90 families each week. We have given about 423 pounds so far this year. Thank you for your support in our church's mission project.



## LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

The Lunch Bunch met on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 at Ole' Times Country Buffet. Those in attendance were: Carl Shaw, David Von Almen, Winona Smith, Evelyn Hawkins, Bob, Gladys, Janice and Diane Fentem, Juanita Gunnin, Curtis, Nadine & Lewis Scaggs, Bill & Imogene Bartoe, and Lonnie & Margaret Hicks. Our next

gathering will be at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at Ole Times Country Buffet.



fun, food and celebration.

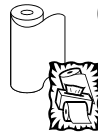
Please join us on October 5<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship for a finger food luncheon and baby shower for Amanda (Bickley) & Edwin Aguilar. The Aguilars are registered at Target and Babies-R-Us at Toys-R-Us. Come join us for

## END OF SUMMER CELEBRATION AND PICNIC

On Sept. 14, we celebrated our first End of Summer Worship Celebration and Picnic. During worship we sang songs from summer camps, past and present, accompanied by piano, guitars and flute. Members of the Chi Rho/CYF sang "Lean On Me" (the version done at Youth-a-Palooza) for the special music. After church we went down to the Fellowship Hall for a picnic and then to the courtyard for fun at the dunking tank and water slide. Chi Rho/CYF raised \$106.20 at the dunking tank, and children of all ages enjoyed the water slide. Since Mike Rogers and Charlie Smith were taking pictures, be sure to watch the church's web site, [www.fcc-wr.org](http://www.fcc-wr.org), for reminders of the fun. A very large "thank you" to Pat and Corey Gunnin for providing the water slide and dunking booth and for overseeing the grilling of hamburgers and hot dogs. Thanks are also due to Beth Bickley, Ann Von Almen, Lisa Lombardo, Sara, Melissa & Jessica Hebenstreit, Mitchell & Ethan Thompson and Chris Rogers. If you could not participate, look at the pictures and ask for stories about the fun, especially the "hair raising" part.

## OUR MARCH OF DIMES CAMPAIGN

It is the time of year for the emphasis on assisting the March of Dimes in their effort to fight birth defects and reduce the number of premature births. Tyler and Austin Hurlbert are our congregation's symbols of the wonderful work by the March of Dimes. Please help with this work by dropping in your pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters and folding money into the bucket that is in the Narthex.



## CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS

Toilet Tissue  
Gallon zip lock bags  
Paper Towels

## CWF GRACE GROUP



We met on Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 with a covered dish meal. There were eight ladies attending. Winona Smith gave the study/worship program titled, "Learning to Listen for God." Please bring the pillowcases that you have been making or purchasing to church by the end of the month. These will be taken to Retreat and then delivered to Egleston/Scottish Rite Hospital in Atlanta so that each child at the hospital will have their very own pillowcase. We thank everyone for the generosity in this project. Our next meeting will be on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Our annual Chinese Auction will be held on October 19<sup>th</sup> after the Fellowship Dinner. Start thinking of all the surprise gifts you can bring to be sold by our auctioneer, David Von Almen. As always, all ladies of the church are welcome to attend our CWF meetings.

## CHINESE AUCTION--- WHAT IS THAT?

For our new members who haven't been to a Chinese Auction, you have missed a lot of fun, laughter and unique gifts. Our CWF Grace Group has a Chinese Auction annually as a fundraiser. It will be held after the Fellowship Dinner. You can begin now to find things around your home that you no longer want to dust or clean. They can also be new things you buy, but that is not necessary. They can be gag gifts or really nice gifts. Wrap these gifts, in pretty paper or newspaper comics with big bows, or in a gift bag. Since we have more younger children now, it might be nice to include some gifts for children. Put a note on those gifts saying "For boy" or "For girl". The kids love bidding on the gifts. After the dinner, David will become our auctioneer. Bids are taken for each gift and the highest bidder gets the gift, whatever it is. One time our minister, Darrell, got a surprise when he opened his gift for all to see...some earrings, which he wore during the rest of the evening. For several

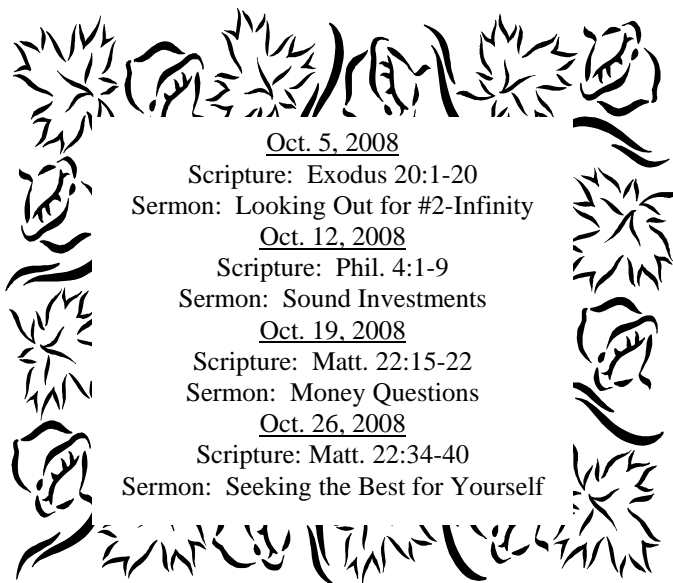
years, an exercise video made an appearance at each auction. One person bid and got a big box of roofing nails. Another person got a can of sardines, another got a key board. You can wrap whatever you no longer want. You know the saying, What is one person's junk can become another person's treasure.

Now you know about a Chinese Auction. Next is getting to experience one and become an expert bidder. Hope to see you the 19<sup>th</sup> of October.



### SAFE HOUSE NEEDS

- Juice & snacks for kids support group
- Children's books for library
- Small used TV
- Cleaning supplies
- Dish washing liquid



Oct. 5, 2008

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-20  
 Sermon: Looking Out for #2-Infinity

Oct. 12, 2008

Scripture: Phil. 4:1-9  
 Sermon: Sound Investments

Oct. 19, 2008

Scripture: Matt. 22:15-22  
 Sermon: Money Questions

Oct. 26, 2008

Scripture: Matt. 22:34-40  
 Sermon: Seeking the Best for Yourself

### THE FOUR SEASONS

There was a man who had four sons. He wanted his sons to learn not to judge things so quickly. So he sent them each on a quest, to go look for a pear tree that was a great distance away.

The first son went in the winter, the second son went in the spring, the third son went in the summer and the youngest son went in the fall.

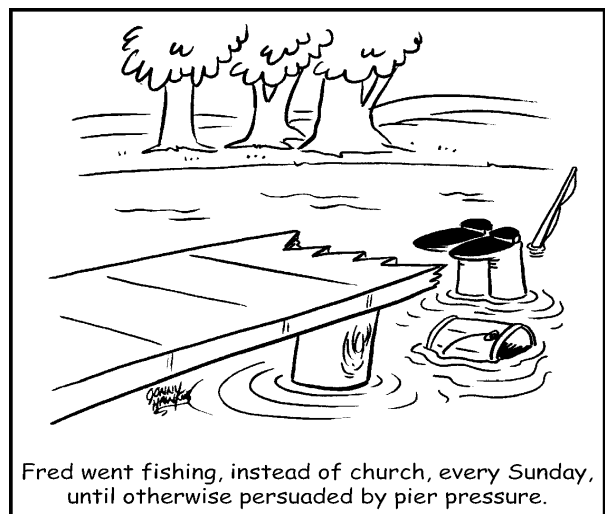
When they had all gone and come back, he called them together to describe what they had seen.

The first son said that the tree was ugly, bent and twisted. The second son said no, it was covered with green buds and full of promise. The third son disagreed. He said it was laden with blossoms that smelled so sweet and looked so beautiful, and that it was the most graceful thing he had ever seen. The last son disagreed with all of them. He said it was ripe and drooping with fruit, full of life and fulfillment.

The father told them that you cannot judge a tree, or a person, by one season and that the sense of who they are and the pleasure, joy and love that come from life can only be measured at the end when all the seasons are up. He said if one gives up when it's winter, you will miss the promise of your spring, the beauty of your summer and the fulfillment of your fall.

Moral of the story: Don't let the pain of one season destroy all the rest. Don't judge life by one difficult season. Persevere through the difficult times and better times are sure to come.

- **Happiness keeps you sweet, while trials keep you strong.**
- **Sorrow keeps you human.**
- **Failures keep you humble.**
- **Success keeps you glowing.**
- **But only God keeps you going.**



# October 2008

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

			1 <b>Christopher Von Almen</b>	2 Choir Practice 7:00 <b>Mike &amp; Gidget Hurlbert</b>	3	4 8:00 Men's Breakfast
5 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00 <b>Thomas Scissons</b>	6 Cabinet & Board Meeting 6:45 & 7:30	7 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Bible Study 7:00	8 Lunch Bunch Meets	9 Choir Practice 7:00	10 <b>Scott &amp; Juliet Nolde</b>	11
12 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00	13	14 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Bible Study 7:00 Model Club 7:00	15 <u>Newsletter articles due</u> CWF M & M meets 7:00	16 CWF Grace meets 7:30 Choir Practice 7:00	17 <b>Sonia Shaw Greg Ladzinske</b>	18 8:00 Breakfast Fall Church Work Day <b>Sylvia Lord Jannet Thompson</b>
19 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 Chinese Auction	20	21 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Bible Study 7:00	22	23 Choir Practice 7:00	24	25 <b>Norbert Duncan</b>
26 "Feed My Sheep Sunday" ChiRho/CYF 4:00	27	28 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Bible Study 7:00 <b>Ann Von Almen</b>	29 Facilities Mtg. 7:00	30	31 <b>Curtis Scaggs</b>	

## PRAYER WORKS?

In a small conservative town in the Mid-West, a newly constructed bar/tavern was soon to open up for business. The local church started a campaign to block the bar from opening with petitions and prayers. The finishing touches progressed, however, right up until the week before opening. A severe storm brought a lightning strike that hit the bar, and it burned to the ground.

The church folks were rather smug in their outlook after that, until the bar owner sued the church on the grounds that the church was ultimately responsible for the demise of his building. He stated that such an event had to be through direct or indirect actions or means. The church vehemently denied all responsibility or any connection to the building's demise in its reply to the court.

The case made its way through the court system, and the judge looked over all the paperwork and testimony. He then commented, "I don't know how I'm going to decide this. It appears from the paperwork, we have a bar owner that believes in the power of prayer...and an entire church congregation that doesn't!"

**First Christian Church**  
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